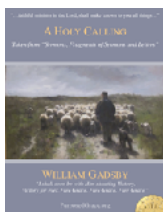


SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

November 26th, 2017

“Rest in the LORD, and wait
patiently for HIM: fret not thyself
because of him who prospereth in
his way, because of the man who
bringeth wicked devices to pass.”

(PSALM 37:7)



New on our bookshelf... William Gadsby

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Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

Cathrine Young - December 1st

This evening's podcast will be from PASTOR CHRIS CUNNINGHAM

PHILIPPIANS 1:1-13 - CONTENTMENT

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

***Our featured sermon is made available each Sunday at 6:00 PM**

THE MYSTERY OF HIS LOVE

"I HAVE A BAPTISM TO BE BAPTIZED WITH;
AND HOW AM I STRAITENED TILL IT BE ACCOMPLISHED!"

(LUKE 12:50)

If anything can awake astonishment, and inflame our gratitude, it must be that mystery of love, God manifested in our nature, and made man, to bleed and die for our salvation. That He should condescend to be sold for thirty shekels of silver, that is, for three pounds fifteen shillings of our money; to be apprehended and condemned as a malefactor; to be crowned with piercing thorns; to be scourged at the bloody pillar; to bear His cross; to be numbered with transgressors; to be reviled by ruffianly soldiers, and a merciless populace; to be torn with tormenting nails; and pierced with a hostile spear; and suspended on the ignominious tree, between heaven and earth, as unworthy of either, though He was the maker and preserver of both. What thought can reach, what tongue can tell, the infinite riches of His love to man, that induced Him freely to undergo all this, only to make him happy! Nay, He not only freely underwent it, but even longed for the time of His crucifixion to come—*I have a baptism, says He, a baptism of sufferings to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished?* [Luke 12:50]

How should these considerations engage us, who are His [*purchased possession*] (EPHESIANS 1:14), to trust in His atonement, and to honor Him with our lips and in our lives? Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of

the heavenly calling, consider the apostle and high priest of our profession, Christ Jesus. Keep your mind steadfastly fixed on Him, who is the Messenger of the covenant of grace, and the executor of its conditions. He did not appear in this lower world barely to reveal the gospel, for that could have been done at an easier expense than His incarnation and death. Any angel could have proclaimed it, or prophets declared the same, as indeed the prophets did for to Him give all the prophets witness. But Christ came to procure forgiveness, and to suffer, and obey, for the salvation of the elect people of God.

[PASTOR] AUGUSTUS TOPLADY

IT IS FINISHED

"WHO SHALL LAY ANY THING TO THE CHARGE OF GOD'S ELECT?
IT IS GOD THAT JUSTIFIETH." ~ "...HE SAID, IT IS FINISHED..."

[ROMANS 8:33, JOHN 19:39]

"Tis finished," the Redeemer said,
And meekly bowed His dying head;
O wondrous loving pain!
Come, sinners, and mark well the word!
There view the conquest of our LORD,
Complete, and not one precious drop in vain!
Finished the righteousness of grace;
Finished for the pain that purchased our peace;
Their sinner's debt is paid:
Accusing law cancelled by His precious blood,
And wrath of an offended GOD,
In sweet oblivion laid.
Who now shall urge a second claim?
The law no longer can condemn;
Faith a release can shew:
Justice itself a friend appears;
The prison-house a whisper hears,
Loose him, and let him go.
O unbelief, injurious bar!
Source of tormenting fruitless fear,
Why dost thou yet reply?
Wherever thy loud objections fall,
"Tis finished," still shall answer all,
And silence every cry.

RECEIVE IT AS THE WORD OF GOD

“...YE RECEIVED IT NOT AS THE WORD OF MEN,
BUT AS IT IS IN TRUTH, THE WORD OF GOD...”

(1 THESSALONIANS 2:13)

The great question is not whether we attend a church or chapel, but whether we hear the truth for ourselves, whether we receive it as the word of God in our hearts. Real religion will find its way to the heart, and its effect will be manifest in the life. The Spirit's work is so little understood in the present day. It is the work of God the Holy Spirit to convince of sin, to break the heart, and to plough up the fallow ground. If this work is not wrought in a measure in the soul none will stand the day of trial, for they have no root. The kingdom of God is within you; and when the Lord has taken a poor sinner in hand He will never leave him, but will surely purge away his dross and tin. He will slay his idols, and tear him from those things he so much loves. He will not be aware how many idols he has, until God shows him in a measure the deceitfulness of his heart. The more God's children are taught spiritually, the greater fools do they become in their own eyes; and the more they know of their own wicked and vile state by nature, the more are they astonished that God should show mercy to such poor worms of the earth.

Real religion is indeed foolishness to the world, and the feelings of God's children are indeed a puzzle to the mere professors. But you will find how vainly you have thought and talked when the Lord shows you greater abominations in your evil heart. Then you will understand how everything is opposed to the work of God in the soul of man. Then you will find that there are fightings without—and fears within. When God's children are brought into fiery trials, and persecutions from Satan's darts, the scoffings and mockings of the 'Hagar race' are no more to them than water upon a duck's back. But God sees fit to teach His children many afflicting lessons, that they may be partakers of His holiness. If your religion is of God, which I trust it is, you will have many difficulties to encounter from various quarters; and when you cannot realize any enjoyment in religion, and all things seem against you, you will think yourself very foolish for making a profession, and will be desirous of going back for leeks and onions to Egypt. But if you were losing your employment, and poverty were staring you in the face, you could even then bless God if He gave you a comforting and reviving view of the work done upon the Cross for you. If Christ is in the boat, we can smile at the storm.

[PASTOR] WILLIAM TIPTAFT